



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q60884

Masayuki MIZUNO

Appln. No.: 09/664,094

Group Art Unit: 2826

Confirmation No.: 5281

Examiner: Johannes P MONDT

Filed: September 19, 2000

For: SEMICONDUCTOR INTEGRATED CIRCUIT

STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The undersigned hereby states, upon information and belief:

That each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently herewith was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of said Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,


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WASHINGTON OFFICE



23373

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Date: February 11, 2003

Reasons

1. The invention related to the following claims of this application is based on inventions cited in the following publications, which had been circulated prior to this application in Japan or a foreign country. Because a person having ordinary knowledge in the technical field to which that invention belongs could have easily made the invention prior to this application, a patent cannot be granted pursuant to the stipulations of Article 29, Section 2 of the Japan Patent Law.

2. The description of the claims of this application do not fulfill the conditions stipulated in the Japan Patent Law Article 36, Section 6, Item 2 regarding the following points.

Record (Refer to the List of Cited Literature for the cited literature.)

(1) Regarding Reason 1

- Claims: 2 to 4, 8, 9

Described in Cited Literature 1 is technology for a routing substrate having micro-strip routing wherein the characteristic impedance of the signal routing is adequately controlled by a ground layer with an opening. The fact that the aforementioned opening is designed so that the most suitable electric characteristics are obtained is something that a person skilled in the art could easily obtain. Furthermore, reducing the AC couplings is nothing more than a normal consideration.

- Claims 1, 5 to 9

Modifying the design of the technology described in Cited Literature 1 to provide an opening in the signal routing could be easily accomplished by a person skilled in the art.

(2) Regarding Reason 2

- Claim 8

The invention related to Claim 8 is dependent on Claims 2 to 7, but the invention related to Claim 8 is unclear because "other signal lines" is not described in Claims 2 and 5.

List of Cited Literature

1. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication H11-177247

Record of Prior Art Literature Search Results

▪ Fields searched	IPC 7 th Ed.	H01L 23/12, H05K 1/02
▪ Prior Art Literature	▪ Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication H09-036504 ▪ Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication H06-291216 ▪ Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication H05-343820 ▪ Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication H05-267913 ▪ Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication H05-136597 ▪ Japanese Utility Model Application S60-139344 (Microfilm of Japanese Unexamined Utility Model Application Publication S62-047163)	

This Record of Prior Art Literature Search Results does not constitute a reason for rejection.



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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

1. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 11-177247, published July 2, 1999.
2. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 9-36504, published February 7, 1997.
3. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 6-291216, published October 18, 1994.
4. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 5-343820, published December 24, 1993.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

U.S. Appln. No.: 09/664,094

5. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 5-267913, published October 15, 1993.
6. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 5-136597, published June 1, 1993.
7. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 62-47163, published March 23, 1987.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

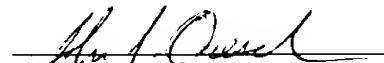
The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the later of three months from the application's filing date and the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is earlier), and therefore Applicant is filing concurrently herewith a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e). No fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a corresponding Japanese Office Action dated December 17, 2002 and an English translation of the pertinent portions thereof which cites such documents indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
U.S. Appln. No.: 09/664,094

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



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